

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01  
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10  
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00  
AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02  
SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /138 W  
-----081910 061012Z /11

R 060746Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8515  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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USEEC

USMTN

USOECD

DEPT PASS STR AND TREASURY ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETRD, JA, ASEAN, MTN  
SUBJECT: JAPAN-ASEAN TALKS: ASEAN REQUESTS FOR TRADE  
LIBERALIZATION

1. SUMMARY: MAY 30-JUNE 1 TALKS BETWEEN ASEAN AND  
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JAPANESE ON ACCESS TO JAPANESE MARKET FOR ASEAN PRODUCTS  
WERE "USEFUL" ACCORDING RESPONSIBLE MOFA ECONOMIC AFFAIRS  
BUREAU SPECIALIST. HE SAID JAPANESE MADE CLEAR THAT  
CONCESSIONS COULD NOT BE ON REGIONAL BASIS. ASEAN  
REQUESTS FOR CONCESSIONS UNDER MTN (E.G. GSP TREATMENT)  
ON WIDE RANGE OF PRODUCTS ARE LIKELY TO MEET VARYING  
JAPANESE RESPONSE. END SUMMARY.

2. BETWEEN MAY 30 AND JUNE 1 MEMBERS OF VISITING ASEAN DELEGATION MET JAPANESE GOVERNMENT MTN SPECIALISTS BOTH IN BILATERAL COUNTRY-TO-COUNTRY SESSIONS AND IN ASEAN-JAPAN MEETINGS. JAPANESE SIDE (EXCEPT AT ONE SPECIAL SESSION AT AGRICULTURE MINISTRY) WAS LED BY AMB. HIROSHI OKI, FOREIGN MINISTRY CONCILLOR WITH MTN RESPONSIBILITIES; PRINCIPAL VISITOR WAS AMB. KAHONO, DEPUTY INDONESIAN HEAD OF DELEGATION TO GENEVE MTN.

3. ALL OR MOST ASEAN MEMBERS IXPRESSED INTEREST IN CONCESSIONS, EITHER ON MFN OR ON GSP BASIS, IN LIST OF PRODUCTS INCLUDING FRESH SHRIMP, FRESH BANANAS, FRESH AND CANNED PINEAPPLE, PALM OIL, COCOANUT OIL, PLYWOOD, LUMBER, MANIOC STARCH, AND CUT FLOWERS.

4. PRODUCTS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO ONLY ONE OR TWO COUNTRIES FORMED LONG SEPARATE LIST INCLUDING SQUID, DRIED BEANS, DRIED BANANAS, DRIED PINEAPPLE, PEPPER, AND COOKED SHRIMP, JAPANESE WILL GIVE SEPARATE CONSIDERATION TO THESE ITEMS.

5. ASEAN REQUESTS FORM ONLY SMALL PART OF DATA FROM WHICH JAPANESE WILL DERIVE OFFERS ON LISTED PRODUCTS. JAPANESE NEVERTHELESS FOUND DISCUSSIONS "USEFUL," MOFA OFFICIAL SAID, AND HE INDICATED THAT REQUESTS WOULD HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOME IMPACT ON JAPANESE MTN POSTURE. HE DOUBTED, HOWEVER, THAT CONCESSIONS ON LUMBER AND PLYWOOD COULD BE MANAGED, GIVEN DOMESTIC PRESSURES AGAINST LIBERALIZING THESE COMMODITIES.

6. MOFA OFFICIAL NOTED THAT SAFEGUARDS, STANDARDS, AND GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT ALSO WERE COVERED BRIEFLY DURING TALKS, BUT THAT MARKET ACCESS FOR ASEAN COMMODITIES HELD CENTER STAGE ALMOST THROUGHOUT.

7. PHILIPPINE REP WITH ASEAN GROUP TOLD EMBOFF THAT THIS ROUND OF TALKS WAS HELD IN TOKYO AFTER HINTS BY JAPANESE MTN DEL THAT PROGRESS IN GENEVA WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT DIRECT PRESSURE ON TOKYO BUREAUCRACY. HE SAID GOJ CERTAINLY HEARD THEM OUT, BUT WOULD NOT HAVE RESPONSE UNTIL AFTER DIET ADJOURNS.

8. COMMENT: TIME REQUIRED TO FORMULATE GOJ RESPONSE MEANS IT IS MOST UNLIKELY THAT FOREIGN MINISTER SONODA WOULD CARRY ANY COMMITMENT WITH HIM TO BANGKOK MEETING WITH ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS PLANNED JUNE 17, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF CONTINUING RESISTANCE WITHIN GOJ TO LIBERAL-

IZING ENTRY OF THESE ASEAN PRODUCTS. MANSFIELD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRADE LIBERALIZATION, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ETRD, JA, ASEAN, MTN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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